

**HIST 2112: AMERICAN HISTORY
SINCE 1865
SPRING SEMESTER 2011
MWF, 12:20 – 1:10PM
321 LECONTE HALL**

Christina L. Davis

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Office: LeConte Hall

Office Hours: M, 1:20 – 3:00 and by appointment

Course Description

This course will provide an introduction to key themes and events in the history of the United States from 1865 to the present. The major theme of this course is how different groups in America struggled to obtain and express their rights, and the resulting political, social and cultural conflicts. Lectures and discussions will go beyond the political narrative of the nation by adding a bottom up approach to foster a better understanding of how the actions of everyday people shaped the past.

The purpose of this course is not to test your ability to memorize facts and dates. Instead, it focuses more on teaching you to understand how people have conceptualized past events and the ways their interpretations guide or influence American society. Thus, this class centers on reading and writing assignments that push you to consider the complexity and contingency of history.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, I lecture on the context of the weekly readings. On Fridays you have the opportunity to discuss and analyze those readings. Feel free to contact me, by email (cdavis37@uga.edu) or during office hours, to ask questions about the course material or to track your progress. If your schedule conflicts with my office hours, you may make an appointment to meet with me at some other time.

Required Readings

Cobbs-Hoffman, et. al., eds., *Major Problems in American History, Volume II*, 3rd Edition
Robert A. Pratt, *We Shall Not Be Moved: The Desegregation of the University of Georgia*

Final Grade Percentages:

20%	Participation	25%	Midterm
25%	Book Critique	30%	Final

Requirements

Attendance

Regular attendance is a minimum expectation for this course. I will note absences within the first ten minutes of each class. You are allowed four excused absences without penalty. If you miss five classes, I will subtract ten points from your participation grade; twenty points for six absences; thirty points for the seventh absence and so on. I reserve the right to withdraw students for nonattendance and will begin taking official attendance on **Wednesday, January 19th**.

Participation

One of the benefits of a small class size is that we can work through this material together. We will dedicate large segments of time discussing the course content. In order to be prepared for our discussions, you must keep up with the assigned readings and lectures, take thorough notes and review them frequently, and learn to think critically about the subjects of this class. Along with attendance, your participation graded depends on your ability to share ideas about the readings, consistently offer thought provoking questions and insights, and listen carefully and respond thoughtfully to classmates.

Book Critique

This course requires a review of *We Shall Not Be Moved* by Robert Pratt. The book analysis must be 4 to 5 pages, stapled, double spaced, with 1 inch margins and 12-pt Times New Roman font. I will provide more detailed instructions of the assignment in class.

Exams

I will administer a midterm and a final exam comprised of multiple choice, short-answer, and essay questions.

Behavior

Any behavior I consider disruptive of the class learning experience is subject to potential expulsion from the class or stiff class participation penalties. This includes but is not limited to surfing the internet, sending or receiving text messages or phone calls, and chatting or passing notes with classmates.

Academic Honesty, Non-Discrimination, Anti-Harassment

All students are expected to adhere to the honor code and academic honesty policy of the University. It is important for you to document and cite sources even if direct quotes are not utilized. All cases of plagiarism will be reported to the Department of Academic Affairs. Any student caught in violation of the honor code will be subject to the maximum sanctions of prosecution outlined in the code of honesty found at http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/culture_honesty.htm.

Adherence to the University's policy on non-discrimination and anti-harassment is also required. See www.uga.edu/eoo/pdfs/NDAH.pdf for official policy statements.

Disability Services

If you have a disability and require classroom accommodations, please see me after class or make an appointment during office hours. You can register to request accommodations for a disability with the Disability Resource Center at www.drc.uga.edu/contact_request.php or contact their office at (706)542-8719.